

Message Text

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61

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SS-14 L-03 INR-09 RSC-01 EA-11

RSR-01 /076 W

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R 161810 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6916
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 1452

STADIS

FOR KATZ

E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EMIN, BE

SUBJECT: STEEL VRA

REF: DUSSELDORF 0296

1. IN A FURTHER CONVERSATION, VAN DER REST TELLS US THAT THE LAWYERS ARE AWAITING WORD FROM THE DEPARTMENT AS TO OUR DECISION ON WHEN LEGISLATION COULD BE INTRODUCED. THE EUROPEANS ARE NOT CONCERNED ABOUT THE INITIATION OF A DAMAGE CASE PRIOR TO THE COURT OF APPEAL'S DECISION. TO INITIATE SUCH A DECISION WOULD BE EXPENSIVE, AND LITIGANTS WOULD NOT WANT TO BEGIN LITIGATION UNTIL THEY SAW WHICH WAY THE WIND WAS BLOWING. THEREFORE, SHOULD U. S. REPLY THAT OUR OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO HAVE LEGISLATION IN TIME FOR THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COURT OF APPEAL' S DECISION, THERE WOULD BE LITTLE ON THIS
SUBJECT TO DISCUSS AT THE APRIL 5 MEETING. IF NOT, THE
SUBJECT WOULD HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED.

2. EVEN IF WE CAN GIVE NO FURTHER ASSURANCES ON LEGISLA-
TION BEFORE APRIL 5 MEETING, VAN DER REST REFUSES TO
COMMIT HIMSELF ON LIKELY ACTION OF THE EUROPEANS. HE
ONLY TELLS US THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT
THE MATTER. WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION, AT LEAST ON THE PART
OF VAN DER REST, THAT THERE IS CONSIDERABLE RELUCTANCE TO
MOVE AHEAD WITH SUSPENSION OF THE VRA. OBVIOUSLY, THE
POSITION OF EACH PARTY DEPENDS ON THE INTEREST INVOLVED,
AND THE BELGIANS HAVE NO REAL MATERIAL INTEREST TO CONSIDER,
SINCE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE LITIGATION.
STRAUSZ- HUPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** STADIS

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: STEEL VRA
TAGS: EMIN, BE
To: BONN
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LONDON
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PARIS
ROME
SECSTATE WASHDC

STOCKHOLM

TOKYO

Type: TE

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